Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1546 - March 30, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1546 with a release date of Friday, March 30th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The ARRL kind of changes its mind on Regulation by Bandwidth, European hams get interference protection from ultra wideband operations, Scouts world-wide plan to celebrate 50 years of their Jubilee On The Air and our annual April 1st report from roving reporter Pierre Pullinmyleg. All this and more on Amateur Radio NewslineT report number 1546 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH: THE ARRL VS THE BLOGGERS

The ARRL has partially changed its mind on Regulation by Bandwidth. It now suggests confining these changes to 10 meters and above. But even this has not placated the detractors of both the League and the proposed rules change. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramovich, NT3V. reports:

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The ARRL says in the wake of the recent changes to the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules, it has revised its regulation by bandwidth proposals to the FCC.

The League says this is being done to avoid some unintended consequences and temper some of the controversy the original petition had aroused.

But bloggers on QRZ dot com and elsewhere in cyberspace seem to consider the revision nothing more than a smoke-screen.

Some look at it as a sellout by the national organization to the proponents of digital communications to the detriment of all others in the hobby.

The bloggers also say that almost any form of digital ham radio will disrupt most or all of the current communications on all bands and therefore must remain segregated into subbands of its own.

By way of review, back in November 2005 the ARRL filed a Petition for Rule Making dealing with the concept of Regulation by Bandwidth.

RM-11306 requested the FCC replace the current segregation

of modes by subbands with a regulatory scheme that would segment bands by necessary bandwidths ranging from 200 Hz to 100 kHz rather than by emission mode.

This proposal immediately brought the wrath of the high-frequency ham radio community.

Through filings to the FCC and by numerous cyberspace web postings, the ham radio community told the ARRL and the FCC that regulation by bandwidth was simply not wanted.

Now the ARRL appears to be capitulating.

At least to the extent where the high frequency bands below 28 Mhz are concerned.

In a statement published in the ARRL Letter, League Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, said that:

Regulation by bandwidth rather than by mode of emission remains controversial below 28 MHz because of its perceived potential impact on established operating patterns, so these proposals were removed from the list with one narrow exception.

The ARRL now is urging the FCC to adopt what it terms a "subset" of the rules contained in its original petition that largely affects only the amateur bands at 28 MHz and above.

If the FCC adopts the League's revised proposals, the 10, 6 and 2 meter amateur bands would be segmented into subbands allowing maximum emission bandwidths of 200 Hz, 500 Hz, 3.0 kHz 16 kHz or 100 kHz.

The only exception would be for double-sideband, full-carrier AM phone.

This modified proposal is already drawing fire from several factions in ham radio.

First are the proponents of weak signal communications on 6 meters and above.

They fear that the introduction of any form of wideband modes close by weak signal segments will spell disaster.

They contend it will raise the ambient noise floor of the bands, rendering it impossible to detect the minute traces of RF that they are searching for.

As one post on QRZ put it: "Digital 100 khz wide signals thousands of them 100 kHz wide only 175 kHz from the 6 meter calling frequency and 100 kHz from 2 meters and the noise floor will go through the roof."

Also not happy are the operators of FM repeaters on 2 meters.

They point to the already overcrowded conditions in both of the repeater subbands.

They also ask the rhetorical question of how and where can numerous 100 kHz wide digital modes be shoehorned in without degrading the performance of existing analog FM communication?

Most believe that wideband digital and 2 meters simply do not mix. Others do not want them on any band below 1 point 2 Gigahertz.

On the other side are the proponents of digital on the High Frequency bands.

They believe that the ARRL is caving in to pressure brought by current H-F spectrum users.

Some involved in rescue radio operations have already warned that in the near future emergency communications systems used by the agencies that they serve will go to wideband data-based communications systems.

They warn that for ham radio to continue to serve its emergency communications clients, the rules must be changed so that Amateur Radio is fully compatible with that technology.

Another bone of contention is why the ARRL continues to pursue any form of bandwidth-based regulation in the face of across-the-board opposition from the ham community.

Dave Sumner seems to address this in his comments in the ARRL Letter:

Regulation by bandwidth provides a better regulatory framework, not only for the introduction of future digital emissions but for the protection of traditional narrowband modes as well.

Unfortunately for the ARRL, not everyone agrees.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

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K1ZZ has expressed the hope that the subset of RM-11306 modifications offers an alternative that will make it easier for the FCC to move at least part of the way in that direction. Even so, the analog ham radio world appears to be gearing up for a fight to maintain the status quo. (ARNewsline(tm) with input from numerous sources including

ARRL Letter, QRZ.com, eHam.net, VHF Reflector, others.)

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REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH: AN ARNEWSLINE ON-LINE POLE

So what's your thought about the idea of converting from the current subband system to regulation by bandwidth? To get an idea we have set up a pole on our website at www.arnewsline.org. Just go there, scroll down and watch for the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on the box that is closest to your view.

The nice part about the software we use is that the results are instant. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the result.

And before we get a horde of e-mails from those who need to point out the flaws of electronic polling, we freely admit that this poll is not very scientific. In fact it is easily subject to multiple voting from those with a personal ax to grind for or against regulation by bandwidth.

That said, after a few weeks the cumulative results will at least give the ham radio community an idea on the way the majority feels on this subject. One that can and likely will affect the day to day operation of every radio amateurs across the United States. (ARNewsline(tm))

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THE BPL FIGHT: SUPPORT NEEDED FOR HR-462

Supporters of congressional measure HR 462 are fearful that the recently announced the IEEE Broadband Over Powerline Standards Project announced last week could hamper efforts to get the measure enacted.

HR-462 is better known as the Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007. If passed, it would require a study by the Federal Communications Commission on interference caused by broadband internet transmission over power lines.

The measure is currently before the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Proponents say that the IEEE project seems to give the aura of respectability to BPL which they feel is not deserved. They believe only legislative pressure can force BPL providers to use non-interfering technology. They also urge all hams to write their political leaders in support of HR-462.

The March issue of QST Magazine has the full background on this bill. (K2IVX)

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RADIO RULES: EUROPEN HAMS TO BE PROTECTED FROM UWB INTERFERENCE

The European Commission has decided to impose more stringent rules on the use of ultra wide band equipment on frequencies below 6GHz. In essence that protects hams from interference the mode might cause. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, is in Nottingham in the UK with more:

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The decision is a victory for a host of amateur radio groups which have been fighting for greater regulation of ultra wide band.

Amateur radio organizations including the Radio Society of Great Britain, the UK Microwave Group, AMSAT-UK, BATC and the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society have put in a lot of work over the last two years making the case for protection of the amateur bands from ultra wide band devices. The European Commission appears to have listened.

In an official statement published on the web, the Commission said: "The conditions in the 4.2 to 4.8GHz band for ultra-wideband technology should be time limited and be replaced by more restrictive conditions beyond December 2010."

The statement went on to say that in the long term ultra wide band equipment should be restricted to operating above 6GHz.

Jeramy boot, G4NJH

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A link to the statement can be found on the RSGB website. Its in cyberspace at www.rsgb.org (GB2RS)

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RESTRUCTURING: THAI HAMS GET CONTEST ONLY PRIVELEGES

E21EIC and others report that the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand has received authorization from that nations telecommunications regulator for Thai operators to operate on 80 and 160 meters during 2007 contest periods. During those periods Thai operators may operate their stations on CW and SSB from 1.800 to 1.825 MHz and 3.500 to 3.536 MHz. Split operation has also been authorized.

Stations in Thailand currently can only operate on 40, 20, 15 and10 meters. They are barred from 30, 17, 12 and 6 meters, however, activity on the WARC bands and 6 meters is

sometimes granted with special permission. (OPDX, others)

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Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the VE6YTV repeater serving Langdon, Alberta Canada

(5 sec pause here)

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RESCUE RADIO: CLUB EXPANDS SKYWARN IN INDIANA WITH CLASS

Amateur radio operators in Monroe County, Indiana have been turning the annual National Weather Service's severe weather spotter training program into a public outreach event. Jack Parker W8ISH has this report.

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Severe weather spotter training in Monroe county, Indiana has been taken to the next level. Through radio, newspapers and the internet the Bloomington Amateur Radio Club has expanded training to include emergency professionals and the general public. This years Severe Weather Training had over one hundred and thirty people in attendance.

Each year Monroe county hams schedule the class on the first Friday in March. That coincides with the start of Severe Weather Prepardness Week in Indiana.

History has shown Bloomington and Monroe county to be a prime target for tornadoes. Getting the general public, government officials and first responders trained can only add to the number of eyes and ears needed to warn the public of a severe weather outbreak.

This years class was followed up with a series of radio interviews on WHCC radio in Bloomington. Radio personality and self proclaimed "weather junky" Rick Evans, invited amateur radio storm spotters to talk about their chasing experiences during Severe Weather Week. The interviews aired live during the morning commute. The early bird reports included severe weather safety tips and background on the role amateur radio plays in emergency and public service events.

Reporting for Amateur Radio Newsline, this is Jack Parker W8ISH

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This years class included 2004 ARRL Educator of the Year award winner Neil Rapp WB9VPG and Indiana State Representative Matt Pierce N9VKU. (KB9WVI)

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RESCUE RADIO: NPSTC AND ARRL SIGN MOA

The ARRL and the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council have signed a Memorandum of Agreement. As reported on the ARRL's website, under the pact the League's Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will participate in meetings and serve on committees and working groups. The League also has agreed to provide other expertise, advice and resources to further the goals of the Memorandum of Agreement.

For its part, the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council has agreed to provide a National Support Office. Among other things, it will coordinate its outreach activities and provide national level technical assistance to the public safety telecommunications community.

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council is a federation of public safety organizations. It serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information for effective public safety telecommunications in the US and abroad.

The ARRL is a National Public Safety Telecommunications Council member. The Memorandum of Agreement culminates efforts begun in 2003 to formalize the relationship between the two organizations. The full story is on-line at www.arrl.org (ARRL)

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ENFORCEMENT: STAY OFF UNTIL YOU RENEW YOUR LICENSE

The FCC has written to a now former ham to tell him that his license has expired and that he must go Q-R-T. That February 28th note went to Thurland Bristol Jr. Of Orange, Connecticut. In it the FCC says that Bristol's license and K1ACD callsign expired back on July 5th of 2005 and that operation without a valid license could bring with it some severe penalties. As his ticket is within the Commission's two year grace period all he needs to do is to renew it to bring it current once again. (FCC)

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ENFORCEMENT: TO MANY CALLSIGN CHANGES

The FCC wants to know why a Texas ham has filed over two dozen applications that first request and then cancel four specific callsigns. That's the question that they ask of Barney Boone, NO5R in a letter to him dated February 28th.

The note to Boone asserts that May of 2000, he has filed 25 or more applications with the regulatory agency regarding the calls W5JB, AI5L, KC5KJG and KJ5AE that either requested or cancelled one of those calls. The FCC says that 10 of those applications were filed in 2006.

The FCC says that once requested and cancelled, the calls were made unavailable to anyone else for a period of two years. The agency says that this appears to be an abuse of the agency's application process and gave Boone 30 days from receipt of its inquiry letter to respond and explain his actions. He was also told to choose which one of the call signs that he wanted to keep. (FCC)

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ENFORCEMENT: KIT BUILT TRANSMITTERS BRING $7000 NAL

The FCC says that Richard Mann who does business as The Antique Radio Collector in Toledo, Ohio is apparently liable for a $7000 forfeiture. This for allegedly marketing of uncertified AM radio transmitters in repeated violation of the Communications Act and of the Commission's Rules. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Reinhart, AA6JR, reports:

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On November 15, 2006, the FCC's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a Letter of Inquiry to Richard Mann and The Antique Radio Collector. This, in response to a complaint alleging that the was marketing fully-assembled S S TRAN model AMT3000 AM transmitters.

In a reply dated November 25, The Antique Radio Collector indicated that it was not aware of a certification authorizing a fully assembled AMT3000 transmitter. The response indicated that Mann had purchased the transmitters in kit form from a third party and assembled the them in his residence. Mr. Mann advertised the assembled transmitters for sale online at www.oldtimeradio.com and had sold a number of completed units to end users since December 2003.

But the FCC says that buying a banned radio transmitter as a kit and building it expressly to sell it for profit is the sane as marketing a fully factory assembled unit. It says that Section 302(b) of the Communications Act provides that no person shall manufacture, import, sell, offer for sale, or ship devices or home electronic equipment and systems, or use devices, which fail to comply with the

agency's regulations. As such it would be Mann's responsibility to obtain FCC certification before offering any units for sale which he did not do.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, in Los Angeles.

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Mann and The Antique Radio Collector were given the normal 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

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HAM RADIO AND SCOUTING: AROUND THE WORLD IN 50 HOURS

Around the World in 50 Hours will be the theme of this years Scouting Jamboree On The Air. JOTA as it is better known, is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Scout Guides all over the world make contacts with each other by means of Amateur Radio.

The idea of the 50 hour operating schedule is to honor the golden-jubilee of the Jamboree by extending it two hours. One hour for every year that it has existed. As a result, this years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours your local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h GMT with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on Echolink. (WIA, GB2RS, Southgate)

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EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW DIGITAL HAM RADIO REMAILER FORMED

A new cyberspace remailer dedicated exclusively to the emerging world of digital Amateur Radio communications has been formed on Yahoogroups. This reflector will primarily discuss the use of digital voice and data communication techniques on the VHF and UHF bands. Technology to be addressed will include D-STAR, APCO P25, packet radio including APRS, High Speed Multi Media, Wi-Fi, P-S-K and F-S-K. To join the group just take your web browser to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/illinoisdigitalham/ and follow the sign up instructions. (WB9QZB)

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HAM HAPPENINGS: PAPERS SOLOICITED FOR ARRL AND TAPR DIGITAL CONFERENCE

Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the 26th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference to be held September 28th to the 30th in Hartford, Connecticut.

These papers will also be published in the Conference Proceedings.

Authors need not attend the conference to have their paper included in the Proceedings. Papers will be published exactly as submitted and authors will retain all rights. The submission deadline is July 31, 2007. Please send papers to Maty Weinberg , at the ARRL , 225 Main St , Newington, Connecticut, 06111. Submissions can also go by e-mail to maty@arrl.org (ARRL)

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HAM HAPPENINGS: THE 12th ANNUAL IOTA DINNER IN APRIL

The 12th annual Islands On The Air or IOTA Dinner will be held on Friday, April 27th, in the Birch Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Visalia, California. This, in conjunction with the 58th annual Visalia International DX Convention.

Reservations for this event are not required and attendees will pay as they enter at the door. Admission is free for those wishing only to watch the programs without dining. As usual, seating will be first come, first seated.

For additional information regarding this event, please contact Jim Zimmerman, by e-mail to jimzim1@mindspring.com (Press release)

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SPECIAL EVENTS: HAMS CELEBRATE THE TITIANIC'S 95th ANNIVERSARY

Ham radio will help to memorialize one of the greatest tragedies ever to happen on the high seas. To commemorate the 95th anniversary of the sinking of the luxury liner Titanic, radio amateurs worldwide will be mounting an operation originating from the Titanic Museum Attraction in Branson, Missouri. That's where members of the Nixa Amateur Radio Club will be making contacts world-wide using the special event callsign W-Zero-S.

Three stations will operate simultaneously using SSB, and CW. Trhere will also be operation using Echolink. All stations will be manned by operators from a consortium of clubs and non-club members from across Southwest Missouri, as well as licensed visitors from outside the area.

Operations beginn at 8 a.m., Saturday, April 14th, and concluding at 7p.m., Sunday, April 15th. The W-Zero-S call being used which stands for White Star. White Star the name of the company that built the Titanic.A U-K group is also expected to be active during that same time as GB6MGY. That reportedly was the actual call sign of the Titanic.

More information is on-line at www.nixahams.net (W7ZVD)

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BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

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A WORD OF THANKS FROM THE SUPPORT FUND WITH ANDY JAREMA N6TCQ

Ladies and gentlemen, with a word of thanks to those who contributed to the Newsline Support Fund in April of 2006, here's Amateur Radio Newsline's Support Fund Administrator Andy Jarema, N6TCQ.

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In the month of April we heard from Regular contributor Benton Bonney, W4PE of Orlando , The Potomac Highlands ARC of Moorefield, WV, The Cookville, TN Repeater Association, W4HPL, monthly contributor Joseph Bartzi, Jr., KC8DKF of Columbus, OH and monthly contributors William Walters, WA2IBM, and Scott Hensley of the Area Communications Team, both in San Jose, CA, and the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

Via PayPal we heard from C Mark Burlingame, KB6TVD of Northlake, IL and Stuart Cole, N5LBZ of Gulfport, MS.

Month in and month out Newsline takes an average of $1000 to put the latest news of Amateur Radio on the air- it doesn't come to us- we have to go get it. With no advertising, we depend on you- our loyal listeners. Our website- arnewsline.org has all the info you need to contribute, including a quick link to PayPal. Or there's our address: Newsline Support Fund, PO Box 660937, Arcadia, CA 91066. That address will be repeated at the end of the newscast. Thanks for your help.

I'm Andy Jarema. N6TCQ.

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Thank you Andy. (ARNewslineT)

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RADIO OPPS: PETER THOMAS VE7PT IS NOT A SILENT KEY

If you happen to be a fan of the British comic group Monty Python then the line "I'm not dead yet, I'm just resting" will have a great deal of meaning. And it's also what may be going through the minds of the editorial staff at The Canadian Amateur magazine after it learned that it made a big oops in reporting the departure from life of a Canadian ham. Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here with the rest of the story:

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Well it happened this way. The March/April 2007 issue of The Canadian Amateur carried a listing in the Silent Key column saying that Peter Thomas, VE7PT, had passed on. Only one problem about this for the magazine. It seems that Peter was and is definitely not a Silent Key.

It was all explained in a March 19th special bulletin issued by Radio Amateurs of Canada which publishes The Canadian Amateur. It seems that the mix-up came about when an obituary in local newspapers was spotted for a "Philip Thomas" in which it was stated that his interests included ham. It also listed his callsign as being VE7PT. And dutifully, the information was re-reported by the Canadian Amateur magazine but did not bother to check on the accuracy of the initial report.

Well the good news is that the real VE7PT is very much alive. In fact, the R-A-C release describes him as an active 86 year-old living in British Columbia and a 25 year retiree who still enjoys being active in the hobby. He is a member of the Westcoast Amateur Radio Association, the Victoria Area Packet Association, and he particularly enjoys training new hams by having them visit his shack. And although VE7PT is no longer sailing the high seas, Peter is an honorary member of the Blue Water Cruising Association. A very active radio amateur indeed.

Radio Amateurs of Canada has apologized to VE7PT and to his many friends and family for the error.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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Kind of reminds us of the words of Mark Twain who once sent a telegram to the press all across the United States. This, after an erroneous obituary about him had been published. That cable simply said: "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." (RAC, others)

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HAM RADIO IN SPACE: DONATIONS NEEDED FOR NEW ARISS STATION

The European Space Agency has agreed to an amateur radio station being installed onboard the Columbus module, the new space laboratory that will be attached to the International Space Station at the end of the year. As part of the station a series of antennas developed at Poland's Wroclaw University of Technology will be attached to the panels that protect Columbus's hull from meteorite debris.

The cost of installing the antennas will amount to more than 100,000 Euros which is in the area of $120,000 in U-S dollars. ARISS-Europe is the amateur radio group which is organizing the project. It is calling on radio amateurs around the world with an interest in space communications to provide financial support.

Although work is progressing well on the antennas, money is still needed to build the amateur radio equipment onboard Columbus. You can find out how to donate to the project on the web at www.ariss-eu.org/donations.htm. (ARISS-EU)

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DX

In DX that's on the air, word that Clive Penna, GM3POI, has become the second ham to achieve 9 band DXCC using only Logbook of The World electronic QSL confirmations. John Sluymer, VE3EJ, in Ontario, Canada was the first.

Also, news that DL9MWG, will be active from Malta as 9H3RT. This, from April 28th through May 11th. Activity will be on the High F requency bands mainly on C-W. Q-S-L via DL9MWG.

PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from April 25th to May 10th. No other info provided at this time.

Lastly, keep an ear open for DL2GAC in the Solomon Islands who is once again active as H-44-M-S. Bernhard is expected to be there until April 25th. The "DX Newletter" reports that he is collecting QSLs for his U.S. Counties Award as well as 5 Band Worked All States from there. His activity is mainly on 80, 40 and 20 meters. QSL direct or via the bureau to DL2GAC.

(From various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: HAM RADIO AND FURSUITS - AN APRIL 1st REPORT FROM THE ROAD

And finally this week, a question. What do ham radio, fur and the YouTube website have in common? Well if you said hidden transmitter hunting, you would be pretty much correct. Here's our roving reporter Pierre Pullinmyleg with his annual early April report:

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Zee Hyena is zee very interesting anna-mil. Zay are moderately large and are native to Africa and India. So, it iz very rare zat you find one on zee streets of a town in zee U-S-A much less one zat likes to go on zee transmitter hunt. But if you go to zee YouTube dot com website you just might run into a ham radio operator dressed in zee Hyena costume who talks about finding zee elusive hidden T: Ok, it is a human in a Hyena suit who is also a ham:

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KD8AYJ: "My name is Julie Fraedrich, I currently live in Streetboro, Ohio, and my callsign is KD8AYJ."

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Ah, you are surprized zat it's a young lady zat is wearing zee Hyena costume? Well, if you get to talk with Miss Julie, she will tell you zat zee video was fun to make:

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KD8AYJ: "At the time, I had just gotten my brand-new new Samsung Mini-DV camera and I just had to have an excuse to play with it. I put on my Hyena costume because I saw another video on YouTube of a group of people who are actually fox-hunting in animal costumes. I said that this is 'so cool' so I put on my animal costume and I decided to talk about fox hunts."

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Zats right. Zere really is a convention where hams go to T-hunt dressed up as annna-mals. It is called Anthrocon and Miss Julie sez zat zere are really similarities between making zee annamal costume and being zee ham radio operator. She says zat both are challengzes:

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KD8AYJ: "Ham radio like animal costuming is a challenge in itself. Some are in ham radio to get that optimal signal. Sometimes you are in it just to see how you can operate ham radio with the very basic or primitive tools in situations such as Field Day."

"I think that I was drawn to animal costuming and to do

Amateur Radio in the animal costumes just from the challenge of the two. If you were to look at it from an event diagram perspective, both incorporate challenges. Some people build their own Amateur Radio gear and some people like to build their own animal costumes. I think that people who like to do both -- you know -- fox hunts and animal costumes -- like at Anthrocom, they just have overlapping similarities."

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And where can you wear ze anna-mal costume and mingle with other radio amateurs?

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KD8AYJ: "Anthrocon is a convention that features and bases itself on people who come from all over the world to wear their costumes for an (extended) 4 to 5 day weekend. And, of coarse they do have fox-hunts there. They have a mobile fox-hunt and a stationary fox-hunt where people wear their costumes doing -- which is pretty neat and is one of the things that drawed me to make my own animal costume in the first place."

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A very fun story, no? Yes? And remember zat zee Hyena always has zee last laugh.

On zee road, I am Pierre Pullinmyleg, reporting for zee Amateur Radio Newsline.

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If you want to see Miss Julie and her Hyena costume that she calls Jixser, just go to www.youtube.com and search for "What happens when you combine fursuits and amateur radio?"

And if you want to hear more about how she got interested in costuming and Amateur Radio, tune into this weeks RAIN Report for part one of an in-depth two part interview with her. Its on line now at www.therainreport.com and on the phone at 773-249-0720.

And oh yes. Happy April 1st.

Story links:
KD8AYJ as Jixser - Part 1:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?vlPMQTQs9RM
KD8AYJ as Jixser - Part 2:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?vMv6IEZfpM
KD8AYJ becomes Jixser:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?vDVkonlpkY

(Story by Pierre Pullinmyleg for ARNewsline(tm))

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio NewslineT. Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline'sT only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio NewslineT, P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) is Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.